rial growth rate in the current year as well as in the last two years are given in the table below:—

| Year | Percentage growth rate |
|---|---|
| 1997-98 (April-March) | 6.6 |
| 1998-99 (April-March) | 4.0 |
| 1998-99 (April-October) | 3.4 |
| 1999-2000 (April-October) | 6.9 |

(b) and (c) Government has not made any estimate of the expected industrial growth rate for the current year.

**Danger to Indian Wheat, Apple and Edible Oil Trade**

1874. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA:: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian wheat, apple and edible oil trade is in danger because of cheap import; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to tide over this problem?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Export Import policy regarding agricultural products is governed principally by the concerns of India's food security, maximising farm incomes, earning foreign exchange and to augment domestic availability. Liberalisation of trade has led to the increased availability of commodities to the consumers, sometimes at prices that render domestic produce at a disadvantage. With effect from 1.12.99, an import duty of 50% on import of wheat has been imposed. As the review of the Export Import policy, especially relating to agricultural products, is a continuous process, policy interventions are made as and when deemed necessary, balancing the interests of farmers and consumers.